

APPROVED: Meeting No. 08-92

ATTEST: 

MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND  
Meeting No. 05-92

February 8, 1992

The Mayor and Council of Rockville, Maryland, convened in Worksession at the Rockville Civic Center Mansion, Rockville, Maryland, on February 8, 1992, at 9:10 a.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Douglas M. Duncan

Councilmember James F. Coyle

Councilmember Rose G. Krasnow

Councilmember James T. Marrinan

Councilmember David Robbins  
(left at 2:30 p.m.)

In attendance: City Manager Bruce Romer, City Clerk Sharon Gran, City Attorney Paul Glasgow and Assistant to the City Manager Cheryl Lampkin.

Re: Police Department

Chief of Police Terry Treschuk discussed the following issues with the Mayor and Council:

Department Mission for FY93. Provide same level of services with same funding.

Accreditation Project. The project is progressing well with an anticipated completion date of July 1992.

Community Desires. Chief Treschuk suggested a survey to citizens regarding community expectations as well as a citizen satisfaction questionnaire which would be used for indexed cases such as burglary.

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Councilmember Coyle emphasized the need for citizens to understand the difference between the City and County police services. Following discussion, it was agreed that there should be some type of reporting system focusing on the police services provided to the City by the County.

Police Department Visions. While there is currently an adequate number of personnel to meet community expectations, there will be a need for additional personnel in the animal control/neighborhood services division within the next two years. The DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Program will be continued in FY93; however, the lack of post-DARE programs for junior/senior high school students was noted. The creation of a standards and goals committee was also discussed.

A new work schedule is being explored as well other methods for enhancing career development and reducing attrition. The take home vehicle policy was discussed, and it was agreed that this should be reviewed periodically. The addition of motorcycles was also discussed as a possible enhancement.

The proposed senior traffic aide program was discussed, and it was agreed that there is insufficient interest to pursue at this time.

Re: Personnel Department

Rich Hajewski, Director of Personnel, discussed the following matters with the Mayor and Council:

New comprehensive personnel policies and procedures manual. The 50-60 policies and procedures should be completed within a year. Concern was expressed that these policies should be issued and made available to employees as soon as possible.

Improved training programs. The recent pre-retirement seminars were very favorably received by employees, and a new employee orientation program is being planned.

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Affirmative Action update.

Revised performance evaluation system is 99% complete.

Re: Public Works

Bob Goodin, Director of Public Works, discussed the following issues with the Mayor and Council:

Super Service Phase II and beyond. Since the implementation of Phase II on October 7, there have been very few complaints. Councilmember Krasnow requested that more education be provided as to the time of pick-up.

There was discussion regarding the success of the recycling program and the fact that many residents may not need the twice a week pick-up for regular refuse. The possibility of implementing a pilot program of one day a week refuse pick up and one day for recycling was discussed.

Federal and State Mandates. These include certification for Water Treatment Plant employees. The Clean Water Act, lead and copper rule, requires a sampling of water over a two-year period from 60 homes which were built between 1982 and 1987. COG is coordinating this effort.

Aging infrastructure. There was general agreement that last year's smoothseal contractor did a poor job.

Public services to private areas. Councilmember Krasnow noted the need to improve leaf collection in New Mark Commons.

Mr. Goodin was requested to provide a list of all take-home City vehicles.

Re: Community Development

Neal Herst, Director of Community Development, discussed the following issues with

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the Mayor and Council:

Affordable housing demonstration program. A task force will be created to evaluate the proposed housing demonstration program and develop operational details necessary to implement the program.

Compliance with Sign Ordinance. Twelve of 98 violations remain unresolved and staff will again contact these businesses prior to enforcement on February 15. The proliferation of "walking billboards" on Rockville Pike was discussed, and it was agreed that staff would meet with these businesses to develop a different approach to advertising.

Middle Lane property. GSA is looking for 100,000 to 300,000 square feet within walking distance of a Metro station, and the Middle Lane site would meet these requirements.

Department reorganization. A new organization chart was distributed.

Master Plan status. The Planning Commission analysis should be completed by April with their public hearing scheduled in June 1992.

Economic Development Plan status. The Economic Development Council is currently reviewing the staff draft which will be forwarded to the Mayor and Council in the very near future.

Metro Center Garage. It was agreed that the current rental arrangement with Marine Midland is satisfactory.

UMTA Grant. The City will receive the full grant of \$215,000 which will be used to develop a transit management program (alternate maximum transit opportunities) for the Irvington Farm property.

Annexation Update. The proposed schedule for the Irvington Farm annexation was discussed, and there will be a worksession held on February 25 to review staff's summary of all issues

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and positions taken on those issues.

Re: Department of Finance

Kevin Deckard, Director of Finance, discussed the following with the Mayor and Council:

General Economic Overview. While property taxes have increased by six percent, all other revenues are decreasing. It was agreed that the City would aggressively pursue the hotel tax bill which would generate approximately \$250,000 in revenues for the City.

The goal for the FY93 budget is to retain the same tax rate.

A five-year forecast was requested, and it was noted that the tax duplication program would be carefully reviewed.

Re: Department of Community Services

Josephine Roberts, Director of Community Services, discussed the following with the Mayor and Council:

Policy on Social Service Delivery in the City of Rockville. Ms. Roberts recommended the formation of an advisory committee, comprised primarily of caregivers, to review social services delivery in the City. The committee would be requested to conduct a needs assessment and to focus on services which are preventive and remedial while stressing self-sufficiency. Until this policy is developed, current services would be maintained.

There was discussion regarding turning back to the County some of the services provided by this Department.

Re: Recreation and Parks

Greg Bayor, Director of Recreation and Parks, discussed the following issues with the

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Mayor and Council:

Forestry Program, State Forest Conservation Act and the City tree preservation ordinance.

CIP. Loss of Program Open Space and a maintenance only budget were discussed.

Americans with Disabilities Act. A study of 38 buildings and 48 shelters will be conducted to ensure compliance with the ADA.

Special Events. The concept of reducing the number of special events was discussed, and there was agreement that this is a preferable approach to scaling down all events. The possibility of combining events, such as the Antique Car Show and Rockville Day, will also be explored.

Resident versus non-resident fees. There will be a \$10 materials charge for playground participants this summer. The daily resident fees for Redgate Golf Course will remain the same and there will be a slight increase for non-residents.

Swim Center economics. The issues of corporate rates, multi-year passes, marketing for special events and the free swim program were discussed and staff will be following up on these options.

Re: City Manager's Department

Bruce Romer, City Manager, discussed the following with the Mayor and Council:

Rockville Reports. It was agreed that a monthly publication would be initiated and that bids would be requested for alternate distribution.

Cable TV Programming Expansion and Increased Audience. The Focus on the Arts program has been a success, and the cable office is now also assisting in training programs.

Sister City 35th Anniversary. It was agreed that a contractual arrangement with the

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Sister City Corporation for the anniversary activities hosted by Rockville should be explored. The dates will be confirmed as soon as possible.

Legislative Program Successes.

CIP containment.

Outside agency funding. Discussion was held regarding the reorganization of the outside agency budget with inclusion of items in the appropriate department budgets.

Re: Other Issues

Fire Tax District Consolidation. The status of County legislation was discussed as well as the feasibility of Rockville creating its own fire department.

Rockville Baseball Association (RBBA). The Mayor and Council will be meeting with the Recreation and Park Advisory Board and the RBBA to review resolution of concerns raised last season.

Quality Management. Staff will review programs for their suitability as a pilot project.

Re: Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Mayor and Council, the meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m., to convene again in General Session at 7:30 p.m. on February 10, 1992, or at the call of the Mayor.